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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1198
BT

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, US, UR

SUBJECT: S&T: COMPUTER APPLICATIONS: LARGE SYSTEMS

REF: A) AUFENKAMP AUGUST 15 LETTER TO LEBEDINSKIY

B) MCMAINS AUGUST 8 LETTER TO LEBEDINSKIY

1. DEPARTMENT RECEIVED NOVEMBER 21 AUFENKAMP NOVEMBER 21
LETTER TO LEBEDINSKIY TRANSMITTING MCMAINS NOVEMBER 17
LETTER TO LEBEDINSKIY. LETTERS POUCHED REGISTRY NUMBER
2943813.

2. AUFENKAMP NOVEMBER 21 LETTER TO LEBEDINSKIY IS IN
FOLLOW-UP OF OCTOBER DISCUSSIONS IN MOSCOW WITH BEZUKOV
REGARDING POSSIBILITY OF PROJECT ACTIVITY WHICH WOULD
BUILD ON JOINT EFFORTS IN JULY 1975 TRANSPORTATION SEMINAR.
DISCUSSIONS WITH BEZUKOV COVERED PROPOSALS FOR SUCH
ACTIVITIES SET FORTH IN MCMAINS' AUGUST 8 AND AUFENKAMP'S
AUGUST 15 LETTERS TO LEBEDINSKIY. BEZUKOV INDICATED
US PROPOSALS UNDER CONSIDERATION AND SOVIET RESPONSE WOULD
BE FORTHCOMING. IN EFFORT TO REDUCE TIME INVOLVED IN
DEVELOPING PROPOSALS FOR JOINT RESEARCH, AUFENKAMP
PROPOSES BRIEF, PERHAPS TWO-DAY, MEETING EARLY IN 1976--IN
JANUARY IF POSSIBLE--EITHER IN MOSCOW OR WASHINGTON, TO
COMPLETE TASK OF FORMULATING PROJECTS.

3. MCMAINS NOVEMBER 17 LETTER TO LEBEDINSKIY IS IN
FOLLOW-UP OF HIS AUGUST 8 COMMUNICATION. PROPOSES JOINT
RESEARCH BE UNDERTAKEN ON PROJECT OF MUTUAL INTEREST AND
SUGGESTS TWO POSSIBILITIES IN TRANSPORTATION AREA FOR
CONSIDERATION:

A) LARGE-SCALE SYSTEMS ANALYSIS OF CONSTRUCTION OF A
MAJOR RAILROAD LINE IN ARTIC TERRITORY. IT WOULD BE A
SCIENTIFIC, COMPUTER-AIDED ANALYSIS OF THE LINE'S
OPTIMAL SCALE AND DESIGN, ITS DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL, ITS
ECOLOGICAL IMPACT, AND ITS RELATION TO OTHER SECTORS OF
THE ECONOMY;

B) COMPARATIVE EVALUATION OF THE EFFECTIVENESS IN USSR
AND US OF LARGE COMPUTER-AIDED INFORMATION EXCHANGE

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SYSTEMS FOR HANDLING FREIGHT CAR INTERCHANGES BETWEEN RAILROAD ADMINISTRATIONS AND/OR REGIONS. CENTRAL GOAL OF THIS KIND OF JOINT RESEARCH WOULD BE PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF ECONOMIC LAWS AND MODELS USING CONCRETE EVIDENCE APPROPRIATE TO SUBJECT IN ORDER TO MAXIMIZE THE MUTUAL BENEFITS BOTH COUNTRIES CAN OBTAIN FROM JOINT SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ON COMMON PROBLEMS. PARTICIPANTS WOULD EXCHANGE BACKGROUND DATA AND MODELS, AGREE ON RESEARCH PROCEDURES, ARRANGE VISITS OF SMALL GROUP TO APPROPRIATE FIELD SITES IN EACH COUNTRY AND (AFTER ALLOWING TIME FOR RESEARCH ANALYSIS) EXCHANGE WRITTEN DRAFT REPORTS. FOLLOWING THIS PREPARATION A SCIENTIFIC SEMINAR MIGHT BE HELD TO DISCUSS VIEWS THAT EMERGE FROM ANALYSIS.

4. EMBASSY MAY WISH TO INFORM SOVIETS OF LETTERS AND SEEK REACTION TO AUFENKAMP SUGGESTION TO JANUARY MEETING. INGERSOLL